Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus, comprising: an electric generator mechanically connected to an engine so as to have a differential rotation with respect to the engine;

a generator brake for mechanically stopping a rotation of the generator; and a controller that gradually decreases a generator torque while engaging the generator brake, wherein upon a generator brake engagement request, the controller sets a target generator rotation speed at zero and performs a rotation speed control of the generator.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque after an elapse of a predetermined time following engagement of the generator brake.
- 4. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by performing a rotation speed control of the generator.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by gradually decreasing an integral component that occurs after a proportional component reaches zero—in a PI control.
- 6. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by performing a torque control of the generator.
 - 7-18. (Cancelled)